November 2026

newswire

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Mayor's Message



The Results Are In…

History was made on Election Night: never before have we seen such a diverse field of candidates voted into office.

Gina Hinojosa will be sworn in as Texas' first Hispanic governor. Amy Acton (after rising above a smear campaign) is Ohio's first female governor. Adam Hamawy is New Jersey's first Muslim member of Congress. Jeremy Moss is Michigan's first openly gay congressperson. Byron Donalds is Florida's first Black governor. And the list goes on!

On page 6, CM Morales shares a long list of election night firsts that forge a new path of inclusion in the US House and Senate, and in state legislatures across the nation.

And don't forget Maryland! We congratulate Governor Moore and Lieutenant Governor Miller on their victory. He is now one of just three Black governors in US history to serve two full terms. And, of course, after the 2022 election, Miller became the first South Asian woman, and first immigrant, to hold statewide office in MD.

We have a rundown of US, state and PG County election results, beginning on page 3 of this newsletter.

Inaugural Citizens Academy

We have photos and info to share about the Town's first Citizen Academy, which was held last month. Turnout was good and attendees were given materials about the inner workings of municipal government, a MD250 tote bag and a boxed lunch. Photos are on page 2.

Halloween/Trunk or Treat Photos

On page 8, we have some great pictures, from the October 31 party, at the FBC parking lot. Families came out in droves! A special Halloween Thank You goes to volunteers Leticia Vincent and Cameron, Melissa Angeles and Tracy Gross.

WSSC's Water Lead Reduction Program

On page 13, learn about WSSC's **"What's Your Pipe Type?"** program, to discern the type of pipes you may have coming into your home, from the county water service line. They're looking for pipes that may contain lead/galvanized metal. In coming months, WSSC will perform pipe-type checks and offer free water service line replacements for eligible properties.

Small Business Saturday: 11/28

Saturday, Nov 28, area businesses are offering specials to entice you to shop locally for unique holiday gifts. We provide more info on page 9.

Also In this Issue

Page 11: CM Morales' coverage of a book-signing event, celebrating local author Jeffrey Fennell's book.

Page 12: Code Officer Cuffie's column includes holiday prep tips, and a reminder to register cars in MD.

Page 16: See NBCA's new brochure.

Page 18: Veteran's Day resources and discounts.

Page 20: Ways to protect your identity/avoid scams.

Your Mayor,

Petrella Robinson

Town of North Brentwood
P.O. Box 196, 4009 Wallace Road
North Brentwood, Maryland 20722

Open: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9am-1pm
Office 301.699.9699 Fax 301.699.1824
Community Channels: Xfinity 71 , Verizon 1983

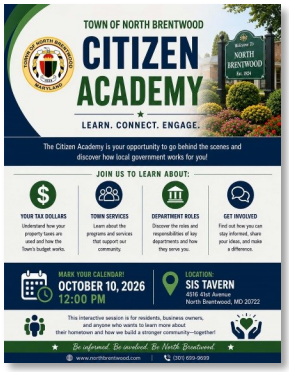
North Brentwood's First Citizen Academy



On Saturday, October 10, at 12 pm, residents attended the Town's first Citizen Academy, at Sis's Tavern. This civic education program provides behind-the-scenes info about how local government works for its citizens, and how to get involved.

Overall, the session was well attended, highly informative, and offered meaningful insight into residents' concerns related to Town government, property taxes, assessments, public safety, volunteerism, and community standards, such as:

- Public safety updates shared by Brentwood Vol. Fire Department Chief Broadus.
- Guidance about the Town Budget process.
- Volunteer opportunities.
- Code enforcement expectations and community engagement.
- MD Public Information Act compliance.
- Census participation importance.
- Discussion about ward- vs. at-large elections.
- Details about assessments, tax credits, and recent county program changes.





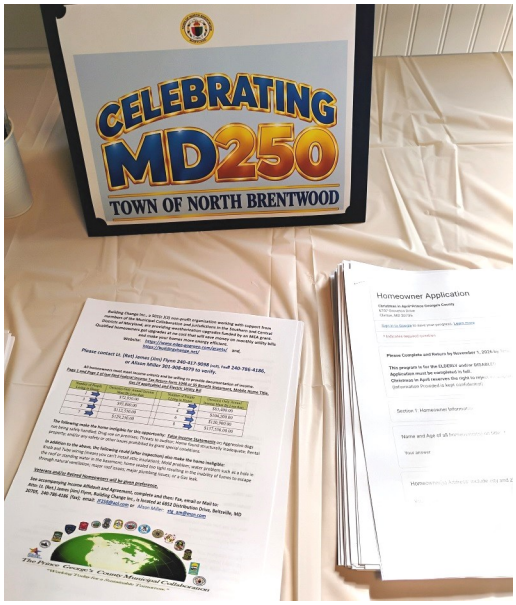
Additional sessions will be held in 2027.







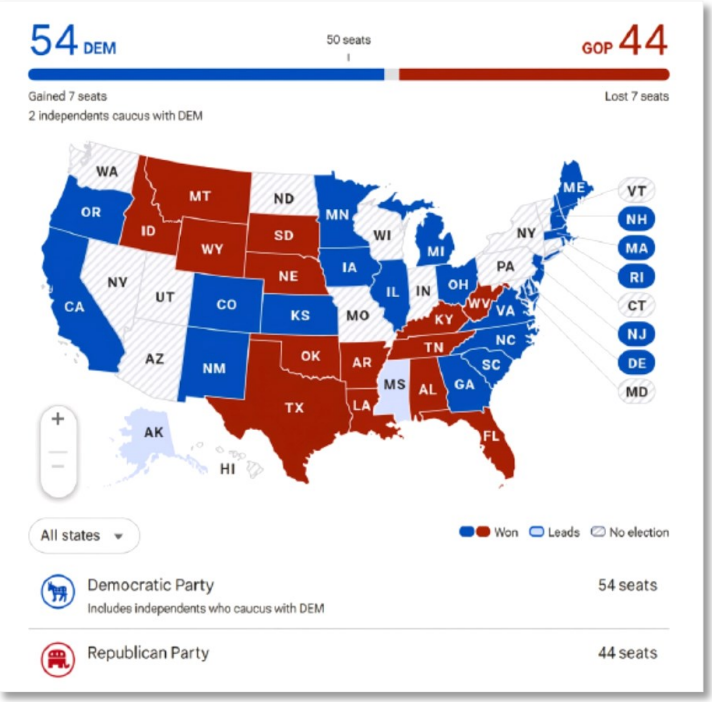




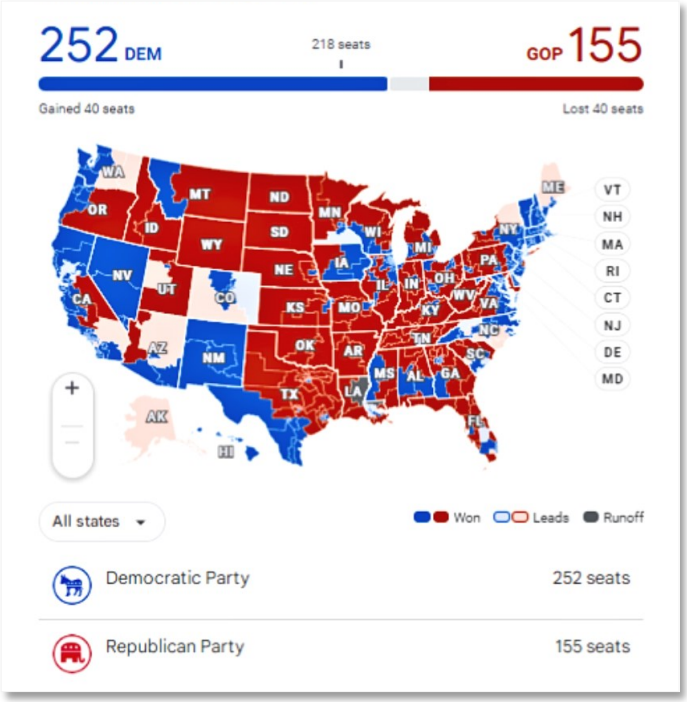
Gubernatorial General Election Results

The graphics below summarize US General Election Results, from *Associated Press*, as of November 5, 2026. Some votes are still being counted; trends indicate the historic Democrat leads in Congress are still rising.

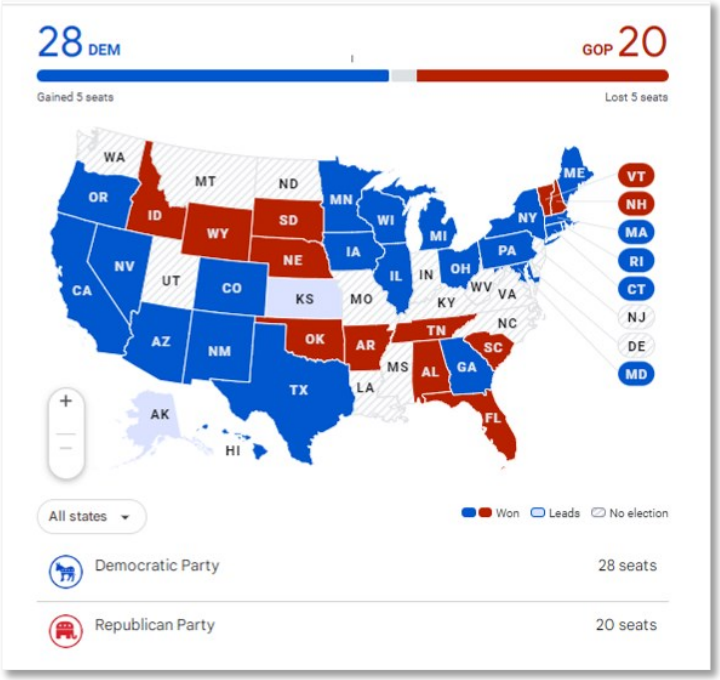
US SENATE

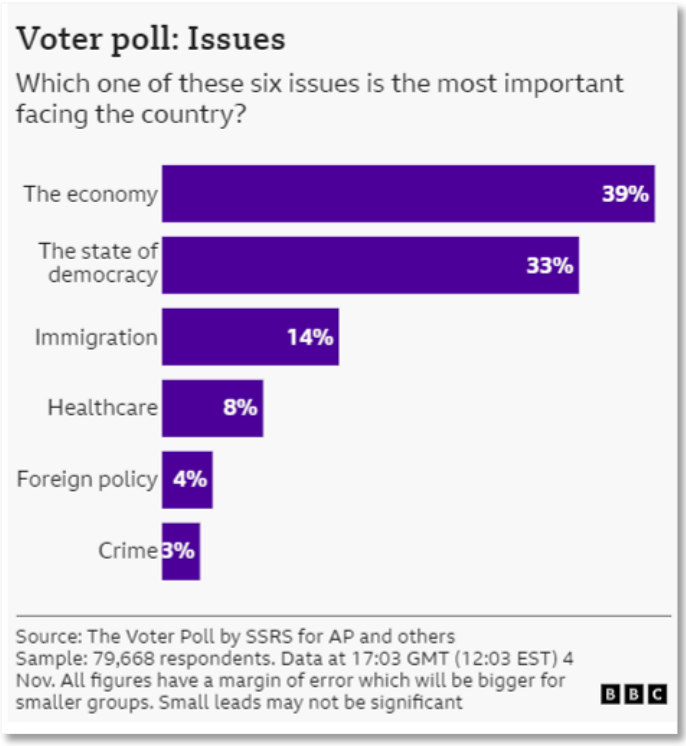


US HOUSE



GOVERNORS





What Turned the Vote to Democrats?

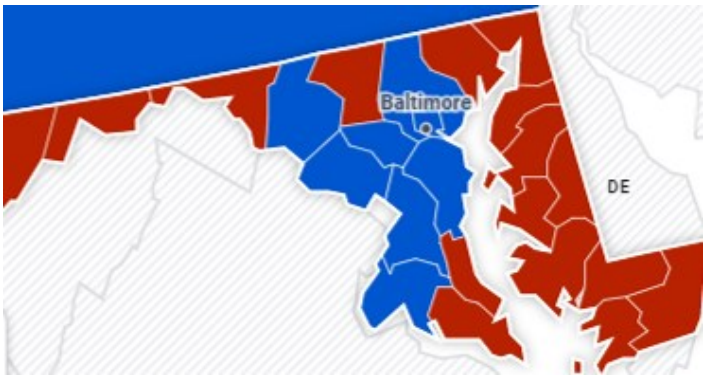
Per *BBC*, women turned out in droves, *most voted Democrat*. Men evenly split between parties. The *shift from Republican to Democrat* happened across the US. Some of the biggest swings since the 2024 presidential election were in Texas, where the Democrats took Senate seats and the governorship. Several counties on the state's southern border swung by more that 50 percentage points.



MD General Election Results

The following are unofficial results reported to the State Board of Elections by 1979 precincts across the state. To view updated results, go to: *elections.maryland.gov*.

Governor: Wes Moore and Aruna Miller (D)



Wes Moore Democratic Party · Incumbent	62.77% 1,182,684 votes
Dan Cox Republican Party	33.19% 625,361 votes
Andy Ellis Green Party	2.06% 38,899 votes
Cathy White Working Class Party	1.97% 37,105 votes

Comptroller: Brooke Lierman (D)

Attorney General: Anthony Brown (D)

US Congress Representatives: Andy Harris (R) District 1; Johnny Olszewski (D) District 2; Sarah Elfreth (D) District 3; Glenn Ivey (D) District 4; Adrian Boafo (D) District 5; April McClain Delaney (D) District 6; Kweisi Mfume (D) District 7; and Jamie Raskin (D) District 8.

MD Supreme Court Justice: Peter Killough

MD Senate PG County (Dist. 47): Malcom Augustine (D)

House of Delegates PG County (District 47A): Diana Fennell (D) and Julian Ivey (D)

PG County Executive: Aisha Braveboy (D)

PG CC At Large: Sydney Harrison (D)/Jolene Ivey (D)

PG County Council (District 2): Victor Ramirez (D)

PG County State's Attorney: Tara Jackson (D)

PG County Referendums: November Ballot

State Constitutional Amendments

On Election Day, November 3, voters chose "For" or "Against," MD State charter amendments.

Question 1: Arbitration Reform for State Employees Act of 2026—For the Amendment 74.91%

Question 2: Temp Appointments on the Commission on Judicial Disabilities—For the Amendment 66.9%

Question 3: Election Districts; General Assembly and Reps in Congress—For the Amendment 60.13%

PG County Referendums

On Election Day, voters chose "For" or "Against," for County charter amendments and bond bills.

QUESTION A - Charter Amendment: Harmful Businesses Taxes and Fees—For the Amendment 74.44%

QUESTION B - Charter Amendment: Eliminate At-Large Council Members—For the Amendment 76.4%

Question C - Charter Amendment: Bill to Change Redistricting Plan—For the Amendment 83.86%

Question D - Charter Amendment: County Purchasing —For the Amendment 77.6%

Question E - Charter Amendment: County Union Independent Arbitration—For the Amendment 87.85%

Question F - Bond Issue: Community College Facilities Bonds—For the Amendment 83.73%

Question G - Bond Issue: Public Works and Transportation Bonds—For the Issue 87.99%

Question H - Bond Issue: County Buildings Bonds —For the Issue 75.49%

Question I - BOND ISSUE: Library Facilities Bonds —For the Issue 86.52 %

Question J - Bond Issue: Public Safety Facilities Bonds —For the Issue 87.94%

For full election results, go to: *elections.maryland.gov/elections/2026/General_results*.

One Nation, Indivisible? The Vote Is Our Voice



By: Councilmember Morales

Your voice matters.
Your participation matters.
Your vote matters.
You used it.

On Tuesday, November 3 — as we gathered to vote our conscience, our convictions and our sense of purpose — exercising one of our most fundamental rights, the words "one nation, indivisible" came to mind. But what do those words really mean? And perhaps the more difficult question is this: Are we truly one nation, indivisible?

In its most basic sense, *one nation, indivisible* expresses the idea the United States constitutes one enduring Union, not a collection of states free to separate whenever political differences become too great. That understanding was reinforced after the Civil War. In *Texas v. White* (1869), the US Supreme Court held that a state could not unilaterally secede from the Union.

The historical meaning of "indivisible." In 1892, when Francis Bellamy wrote the Pledge of Allegiance, its original wording was: "I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." The words "under God" were not part of Bellamy's original pledge. These words were added in 1954.

The word "indivisible" therefore carries a particular weight. America endured a devastating Civil War: the concept of national unity was not an abstract thought. The country experienced, at enormous human cost, what it meant for the Union itself to be torn apart.

Yet more than a century later, I find myself returning to a more personal question: Does "one nation, indivisible" really describe who we are? Certainly, geographically, we are one nation. We share boundaries, institutions, a Constitution, and a national identity. But, if we look beneath those outward structures and consider the hostility, distrust, political animosity, and social divisions that permeate our society, can we honestly say we are one? That question troubles me.

A few decades have passed since I was obligated to stand in a classroom each morning and recite the Pledge before instruction began. Yet, I can still recite it without error. And, I still feel a twinge of something akin to pride when I hear the Pledge, the National Anthem, God Bless America, America the Beautiful, and other expressions of our national identity.

I am, after all, an American. My people have been documented on this land since before the first US Census was taken in 1790. America is not some distant, abstract idea to me. My family's history is intertwined with its history. So, I do not struggle with patriotism. I struggle with the distance between our nation's ideals and our nation's reality. I struggle with the concept of unity in the presence of division.

Can we call ourselves fully united when justice does not always appear to be administered equally? Can we call ourselves indivisible when Americans increasingly seem separated by race, class, ideology, geography, political affiliation, and competing understandings of what the country itself should become?

Perhaps being "one nation" does not mean pretending those divisions do not exist. Perhaps it means refusing to allow these to destroy our commitment to one another, and to the democratic institutions through which we attempt to resolve our differences.

A House Divided. On June 16, 1858, Abraham Lincoln, newly chosen as the Republican candidate for the US Senate from Illinois, addressed the Republican State Convention in Springfield, Illinois. Confronting the great moral and political crisis of slavery, he invoked a biblical warning: "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

Lincoln immediately explained he did not expect the Union to dissolve or the "house" to fall. His argument was the nation could not permanently continue to be divided (slavery vs. freedom). The circumstances of our own time are not those of 1858, and we should not pretend they are. But Lincoln's larger warning remains worth contemplating: deep and unresolved divisions have consequences.

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America continues to be tested. We debate which policies should prevail, what justice requires, what government should or should not do, and what kind of nation we intend to leave to those who come after us. We will not all reach the same conclusions. But, whatever side of an issue we occupy, we possess something enormously important: the ability to participate.

We have a voice. One of the most consequential ways we exercise that voice is through the ballot.

It is tempting, particularly when government disappoints us, or when political choices seem inadequate, to conclude our participation doesn't matter. I believe the opposite. Dissatisfaction with democracy is not a reason to withdraw from it. It's a reason to participate more intentionally.

Voting does not guarantee every candidate we support will win. It does not guarantee that every policy we favor will become law. Nor does a single election erase injustice, inequality or division.

The Midterm Election

On November 3, the electorate chose to vote against corruption and divisiveness; we embraced candidates who ran campaigns about inclusion, decency and collaboration. Here are some groundbreaking "firsts" from the midterm election, as reported by *Fast Company*:

- New Mexico's ***Deb Haaland***, a member of the Laguna Pueblo tribe, is the country's first Native American woman elected governor.
- ***Gina Hinojosa*** will be Texas' first Hispanic governor.
- NY elected its first all-female gubernatorial ticket, with ***Kathy Hochul*** winning reelection. Her running mate, ***Adrienne Adams***, has become the first Black woman elected lieutenant governor in the state.
- ***Keisha Lance Bottoms*** is the first woman, and the first Black person, elected governor of Georgia. Bottoms is **one of five Black governors elected on Tuesday**, the first time multiple Black governors will serve at once.
- ***Amy Acton*** has become the first woman governor elected in Ohio.
- ***Abdul El-Sayed*** of Michigan will serve as the first Muslim US Senator.
- California has elected its first modern Latino governor, ***Xavier Becerra***.
- New Hampshire's ***Chris Pappas*** is the first openly gay man elected to the US Senate.
- ***Peggy Flanagan***, a member of the White Earth Band of Ojibwe, from Minnesota will be the first Native American woman serving as a US Senator.
- Nevada elected ***Aaron Ford,*** its first Black governor.
- ***Amy Klobuchar*** will serve as Minnesota's first woman governor.
- South Carolina's ***Annie Andrews*** becomes the state's first woman elected to the US Senate.
- ***David Crowley*** is Wisconsin's first Black governor.
- New York's ***Claire Valdez,*** a citizen of the Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo tribe, will be the state's first Native American Congresswoman.
- Colorado elected ***Melat Kiros*** as the first Gen Z woman in Congress.
- ***Adam Hamawy*** will be New Jersey's first Muslim member of Congress.
- Michigan will send ***Jeremy Moss*** to Congress, the state's first openly gay man in the position.
- Nebraska elected its first Hispanic member of Congress, ***Denise Powell***.
- Tennessee elected its first woman governor, ***Marsha Blackburn***.
- Florida first Black governor will be ***Byron Donalds***.

And, not to forget Maryland Governor Wes Moore. The other two Black US governors to have served two full terms are Deval Patrick (MA) and Doug Wilder (VA).

Your Vote Always Counts

Voting gives citizens a constitutionally-protected means of making their voices heard, choosing representatives, influencing public policy, and holding elected leaders accountable.

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There' a statement frequently attributed to MLK, Jr.: "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." Though he may've paraphrased, that distinction matters, and so does the principle. Silence has consequences. Participation has consequences, too. Our democracy depends upon citizens willing to do more than observe from the sidelines.

One nation is both a declaration and a challenge. Perhaps that's how we should understand "*one nation, indivisible"* today. These words are not merely a description of what America already is, but an aspiration for what America must continually strive to become.

Unity doesn't require uniformity to be indivisible. We can disagree passionately about candidates, policies, parties, and the direction of the country, yet recognize one another as citizens whose voices must be heard.

That's why your vote matters. Per our Constitution, voting is a right and also a profound civic responsibility. When we participate, we help determine who governs, which priorities receive attention, and what direction our communities and our country will take.



No matter what election year, don't surrender your voice simply because you think the country has not yet lived up to all it promises.

Your vote is your voice – and it speaks more loudly! Vote because democracy requires participation. Vote because those who govern should hear from the people they serve.

Vote because the future is shaped by those who hold offices, and by the citizens who decide who will hold that office. And vote because *"liberty and justice for all"* should be more than words learned by heart in a childhood classroom. These words should remain a promise every generation of Americans is called upon to make a reality.

One nation, indivisible? Perhaps the answer depends, in part, on us.

Rhode Island Avenue Revitalization



On October 22, Mayor Robinson, Shelley Dorsey-Washington and CM Morales met with the state's Redevelopment Authority, and the Revenue Authority, about revitalization plans for the Rhode Island Ave. corridor. The meeting included a tour of North Brentwood, a diorama and a photo display of the Town's history. Refreshments were served.





Upcoming School Dismissal Dates: PGCPS

Nov 11	**Closed for Students** | Parent-Teacher Conferences
Nov 25-27	**Schools and Offices Closed (Thanksgiving Break)**
Dec 11	**Students Early Dismissal** | Teacher Half-Day
Dec 21-31	**Schools and Offices Closed (Winter & Christmas Break)**
Jan 1, 2027	**Schools and Offices Closed (New Year's Day)**

Trunk or Treat & Halloween Celebration

This year's annual spooky event was, perhaps, the best-attended ever by North Brentwoodians of all ages and backgrounds. **The costumes were great**, including the dancing zombie mob! There was music, movies projected on walls of the community center, and cars lined up in FBC parking lot with treats. What a night!




















Local News & Events

Municipal Government Works Month

The Mayor and Town Council passed a Resolution declaring November **Municipal Government Works Month**. It encourage residents to learn about municipal services, recognize contributions of Town staff and elected officials, and participate in the civic life of the community.

Nov 19: Thanksgiving Food Distribution

On Thursday, Nov 19, at 10 am, Good Intentions is hosting a food giveaway: a whole turkey/chicken, and other food, to help families prepare for the holiday with dignity and care. **Kentland Comm. Center**, 2413 Pinebrook Avenue, Landover.



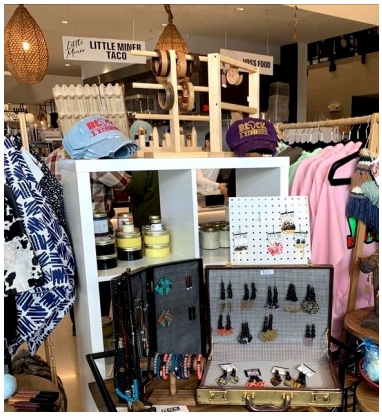
Dec 5: Donuts & Pictures with Santa

From 10 am to 12 pm, on Saturday, December 5, Brentwood Fire Station is hosting a holiday-fun event. Just $5 per person (agers 5 and up); gather at 3716 Rhode Island Avenue to eat donuts and take pictures with Santa. (See flier on page 10).

Small Business Saturday: 11/28

Saturday, Nov 28, bring your holiday shopping offline to find unique gifts from local merchants:

- **Material Things**, an artisan pottery studio, in North Brentwood (4527 Rhode Island Ave).



- **Curated DMV**, a woman and minority-owned pop-up in Brentwood offers bath and body items, jewelry, candles, and more made by DMV artists and curators (3809 Rhode Island Ave).
- **Franklins** toy/gift store (5123 Baltimore Ave, Hyattsville).
- **Suffragette City** has vintage, retro, and handmade clothes and accessories in Hyattsville (5132 Baltimore Ave).
- **My Dead Aunt's Books** features books, jewelry, clothing and vinyl (5132 Baltimore Ave).
- **Brentwood Arts Exchange Artisan Shop** has unique, handcrafted gifts that make the season special. From jewelry and ceramics to textiles and home décor, every purchase directly supports local artisans. Enjoy 15% off all artisan shop purchases!



  Make a day of it with artist meet-and-greets, free gift wrapping, and a festive shopping experience. It's holiday shopping with thoughtful, one-of-a-kind gifts that support the creative talent that makes our community shine.
- **Wynnwood Home Market**, in Hyattsville, has curated quality, lightly-used furniture (4504 Hamilton St).

Shop local, spread holiday cheer, and celebrate the season in North Brentwood and our neighboring towns!


HOLIDAY FUN!
Eat Donuts &
Take a Pic with Santa!
DEC. 5
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
AT THE BRENTWOOD FIRE STATION
3716 Rhode Island Avenue
Brentwood, MD 20722
$5 per Person
Ages 5 and Up
Donuts, Santa, and Holiday Cheer!

Celebrating Local Author Jeffery Fennell



By: Councilmember Morales

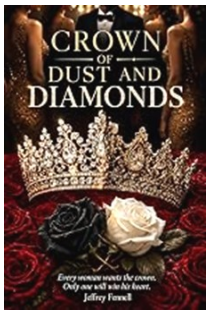
On October 28, I had the pleasure of attending a DMV book-signing event, at Busboys and Poets restaurant, in Hyattsville. The occasion: celebrating author Jeffrey Fennell and the launch of his first book, Crown of Dust and Diamonds, a romantic novel about love, ambition, and the price of being chosen in the high-stakes world of beauty pageants.

I attended the event with Janie Cuffie, who quickly came to my rescue when noticing me trying to take notes on a slip of paper. She somehow found a length of a cash register receipt, so I could continue writing. A small, but memorable, moment during an evening of introspection, celebration and community.



The evening's program featured Jeffrey in conversation with moderator Candra Hardy; DeJaneé Fennell emceed.

Behind the Crown



Much of the discussion centered on pageants and the motivations that draw young women. Jeffrey explained people enter pageants for many reasons: the experience and extravagance, some dream of wearing the crown, and others simply fall in love with the pursuit of the win.

Yet beneath the glamour lies a deeper story.

"This is a surreal moment," Jeffrey said when asked how he felt about becoming a published author. His sister, DeJaneé, shared he'd always been a writer, something Jeffrey readily acknowledged.

"Young adults are evolving all the time," he observed. "Trying to figure out who they are." That idea appears to be at the heart of the novel.

Through his characters, Jeffrey explores what can happen when young people pursue their dreams, while discovering who they are. Life has a way of presenting circumstances that test our priorities, our values, and ultimately our character. Ambition, responsibility, relationships, and personal fulfillment don't comfortably coexist. Those are life lessons worth exploring.

During the discussion, Jeffrey answered thoughtful questions while not revealing too much of the story. He spoke about the competitive world of pageants and what can happen when people who share ambitions find themselves competing for the same prize.

Crown of Dust and Diamonds explores the collision of love and ambition, rivalry and betrayal, and the illusion of perfection beneath the glamour. At its center is an intriguing question: What does it cost to win, when winning becomes everything?

The novel blends romance with a highly competitive and theatrical setting, a world in which beauty, recognition, power, ambition, and love become intertwined.

A DMV Story

This was not Jeffrey's original book-launch event, but a follow-up promotional celebration paying special homage to the DMV (what locals commonly refer to the DC, MD and VA area, the setting of the novel).

The evening concluded with conversation, celebration, a book-signing, and refreshments. Hearing Jeffrey discuss his writing, and learning more about what inspired the story, made the occasion especially memorable.

I've just received my copy and look forward to reading it. I would also be interested in joining others who read the book, to discuss our impressions, interpretations, and the life lessons we discover between its pages.

For me, that may be one of the most interesting things about Jeffrey's achievement. A novel may entertain us, but a good story can also cause us to examine ambition, identity, relationships, choices, and the things we are willing, or unwilling, to sacrifice to achieve our dreams.

Continued on page 12

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About the Author

Jeffrey (center) along with his mom, Delegate Diana Fennell (left) and sister, DeJaneé Fennell (right), gives to those in need through their local nonprofit Good Intentions. This unwavering commitment to service has made the Fennell family valued friends of North Brentwood for years.

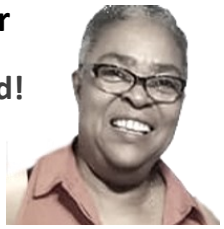


Congratulations, Jeffrey, on becoming a published author. We celebrate this milestone with you and wish you continued success on your literary journey.

The crown is waiting. What lies beneath the diamonds? Crown of Dust and Diamonds is available on Amazon: *amazon.com/s?k=Crown+of+Dust+and+Diamonds*.



Code Officer Cuffie's Corner



Be Proud of North Brentwood!

Trash & Recycling Schedule

Tuesday/Friday = Trash pickup
Tuesday = Bulk Trash (no appliances, 4-item limit)
Friday = Recycling pickup

All mattresses must be covered in plastic.

Yard Waste

Last pickup is Jan 11; yard waste pickup resumes in April. Note: Logs must be cut up and without roots.

Getting Holiday-Ready

Get your home ready as you plan for visitors and trips.

- Install secondary locks (e.g., window pins, sliding door bars and deadbolts) on doors and windows. Lock all of these at night/when leaving the house.
- Don't broadcast holiday and vacation plans on social media; you could be signaling the wrong person about when you won't be home.
- Call or email newspaper delivery, USPS and other carriers about your lack of availability; reschedule deliveries for a time when you'll be home.
- Install security surveillance cameras around your home, and set up alarm systems for your doors, windows and garages. This is the easiest way to deter a burglar from breaking into your house.
- Secure valuable items, gifts and documents using a heavy safe box and lock. Or leave these with a trusted friend or neighbor while you're away.

Register Auto Tags in MD

If you have VA tags, and live in our Town, you need to register in MD. Read about the Out-of-State Tag law on page 14 of *October's Newswire* issue.

Slow Down in Town!

Please Respect our Town: **slow down** and come to a complete stop for all Stop Signs.

WSSC Water Lead Reduction Program

Town Council Report – November 2, 2026



WSSC's Water Lead Reduction Program includes an initiative to determine **"What's Your Pipe Type?"** There are two activities residents may see in our community over the coming months: pipe-type checks and free water service line replacements for eligible properties.

Residents:

- **Will not lose water service** during the pipe type check.
- **Don't need to be home**; contractors don't enter home.

1) The check. Residents whose properties are affected should receive written notification approximately 30 days before WSSC work begins. This notice will be followed by more detailed info, typically through a door hanger, about 48 hours before excavation begins.

During the pipe-type check, contractors will excavate a small area in the public right-of-way, generally near the property line — to identify the material of WSSC Water's portion of the service line leading to a home or business.

The excavation is generally about three feet by three feet; depth will depend on the location of the service line. The work normally takes a few hours and is expected to occur on weekdays, usually between 8:30 am and 4 pm.

Temporary parking restrictions may be necessary in some locations. Afterward, the disturbed area will be restored as close as possible to its original condition. WSSC Water will then notify the customer of the pipe material identified and advise whether any additional action is needed.

2) The replacement. If pipe replacement is necessary, WSSC Water offers free water service line replacements for eligible properties.

A property may qualify if in-home verification (or info and photos submitted via the Pipe Type Survey) determines the service line is made of lead or galvanized material requiring replacement. WSSC Water will cover the cost of replacing qualifying exterior service lines with new copper pipes.

Eligible residents will work with licensed, trained plumbers participating in the WSSC Water program. Unlike the pipe-type check, the homeowner will need to be home for the replacement, because the plumber must enter the home to connect the new service line to existing plumbing.

Water will be temporarily turned off while the replacement is underway. Installation typically takes less than one day, and the property will be restored as close as possible to its original condition.

Following completion, each customer receives a three year warranty on the plumbing work and a one-year warranty on restoration of affected areas. Residents also receive instructions from WSSC Water for flushing and filtering the water after service is restored.

WSSC Water states this work is part of its effort to remove lead-containing service lines and comply with the US Environmental Protection Agency's Lead and Copper Rule Improvements.

An important point for residents: WSSC Water says it removed all known lead pipes from its distribution system in the early 2000s and the water it delivers is free of lead. The current effort is designed to identify the material of individual water service lines, including portions on public and private property, and replace qualifying lead-containing lines.

Questions? Residents may contact WSSC Water, by email, at pipetype@wsscwater.com or by calling 301.206.7200, weekdays from 8 am to 5 pm.

The key message is simple: if you get a WSSC notice regarding your property, please read it carefully and follow the instructions provided. The Town wants residents to understand what the work involves and to be prepared if WSSC Water contacts them.

REMINDER: Conserve & Store Water Safely

WSSC's 3-Gallon-Per-Person Emergency Water Recommendation is still in effect. WSSC Water recommends storing at least one gallon of water per

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Person, per day, for a minimum of three days (totaling three gallons per person) to cover essential needs during a water service disruption.

What the recommendation means:

- Store at least three gallons total per person.
- This supply is to cover drinking water, brushing teeth and essential hygiene, as well as flushing toilets.
- Store extra water for pets and more for household members who are pregnant, ill, or in hot climates.

Why is WSSC making this recommendation?

In September, a power outage at the Potomac Water Filtration Plant nearly left 1.9 million customers without water for hours, forcing an "essential-water-use-only" request. Although water remained safe and service was restored, the incident highlighted the importance of personal preparedness before another disruption occurs.

How to store water safely:

- Best — Commercially-bottled water (shelf-stable).
- DIY containers — Use FDA-approved food-grade containers; clean and sanitize before and after filling.
- Conditions — Keep water in a cool, dry place away from sun/chemicals; follow manufacturer's expiration date.

Tip: Even small outages from water main breaks can be disruptive, so WSSC urges residents to prepare now vs. waiting for an emergency.

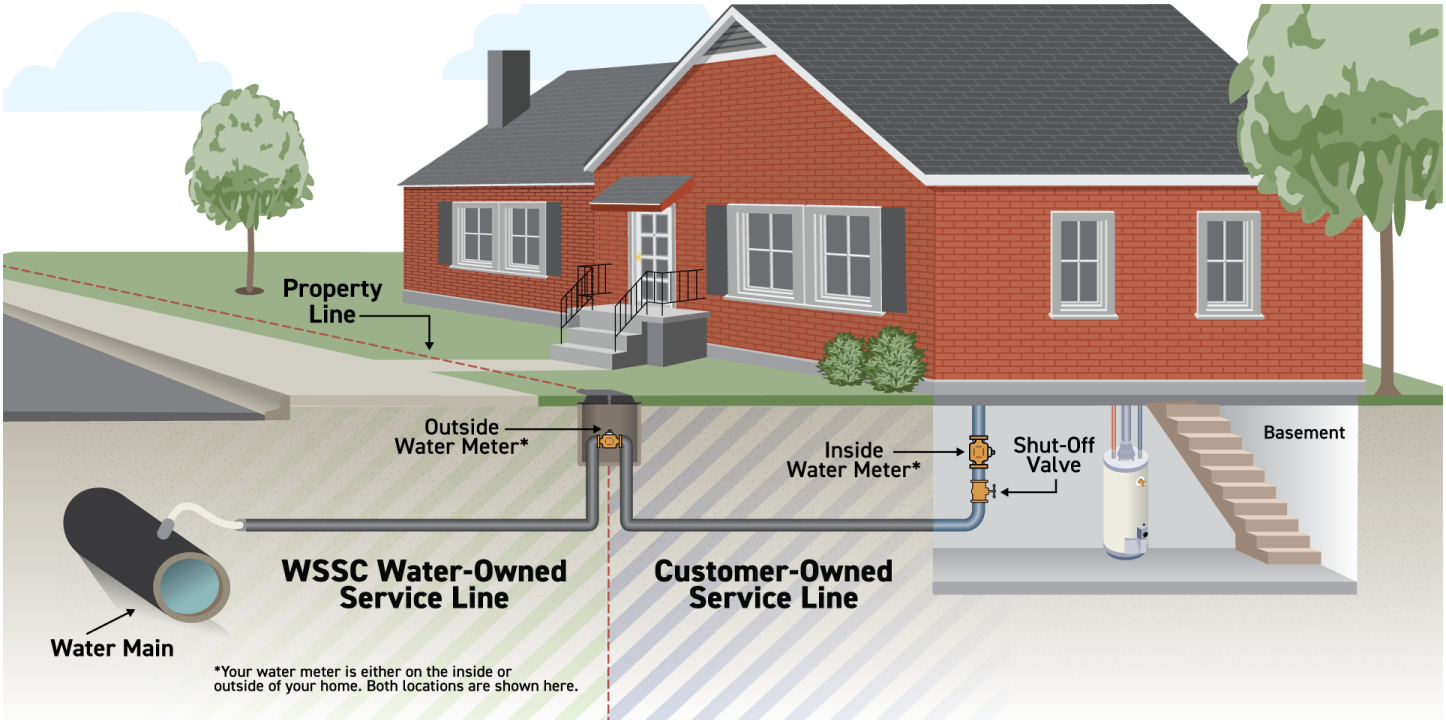
Storing three gallons per person can help you stay independent of emergency distribution and reduce strain on local resources.

Sign Up for WSSC Alerts

Sign up for the Customer Notification System (CNS), *wsscwater.com/cns*, which sends text and email alerts for emergencies such as water main breaks, boil-water advisories, road or lane closures caused by WSSC work, and sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs).

Ways to Sign Up for WSSC Alerts:

1) The Customer Notification System (CNS) is the Primary Alert Method. You can register up to five addresses for alerts.
2) WSSC Water Mobile App also provides service alerts, e.g., service disruption notifications, and enables you to report issues, pay bills and access account information. Available on iPhone/Android.
3) Customer Connect offers non-emergency updates (news, events, general info). Subscribe to Customer Connect: *wsscwater.com/cns.*



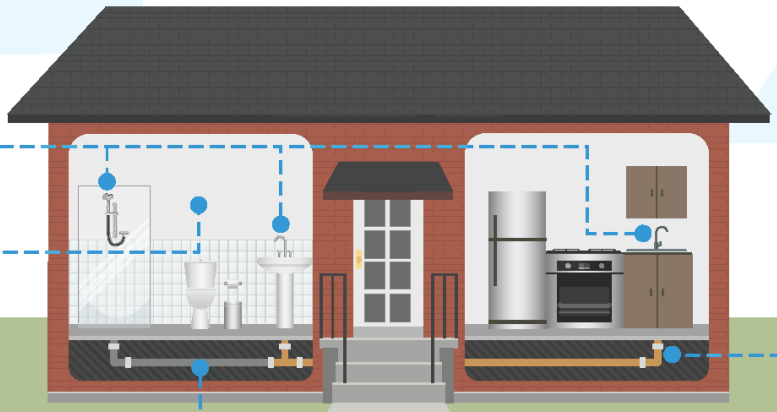
WSSCWATER
DELIVERING THE ESSENTIAL

POSSIBLE SOURCES OF **LEAD** WITHIN HOUSEHOLDS

The water WSSC Water delivers to customers is lead-free.
However, lead can get into water as it passes through household plumbing and/or faucets & fixtures that contain lead.
Another source of lead in homes comes from paint.

Faucets & Fixtures
Those installed prior to 2014 do not meet today's requirements for "lead-free."

Copper Pipe With Lead Solder
Before 1987, copper pipes were usually connected with solder that contained lead.



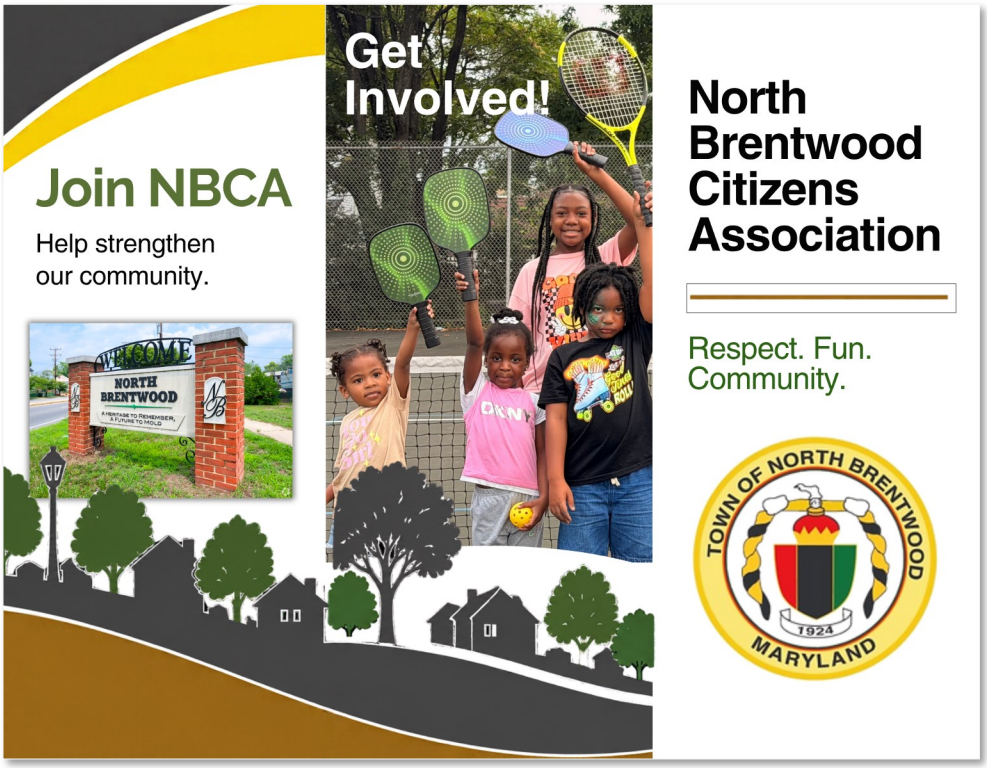
Galvanized Household Plumbing
Galvanized pipes within the home can capture lead released from sources such as lead solder or a lead service line.

Lead Paint
If your home was built before 1978, you may want to get the paint tested for lead.

WSSCWATER
DELIVERING THE ESSENTIAL

What's Your PIPE TYPE? Helping Homeowners Go Lead-Free.
WSSC WATER'S LEAD REDUCTION PROGRAM

PIPETYPE@WSSCWATER.COM
WSSCWATER.COM/PIPETYPE



NBCA Gets New Look

North Brentwood Citizens Association has a new brochure outlining: how to join, benefits of membership, meeting times, and more.

Please support NBCA: dues are only $15 a year per household! Our community association plans many of our residents' favorite events. They welcome ideas, volunteers and monetary donations to sustain operations.

Please email any questions to NBCA president Tiffany Jones: *nbca20722@hotmail.com*.



Events

The Association sponsors activities (e.g., visiting the elderly, sick and shut-ins) and fun annual events: North Brentwood Day, National Night Out/Back-to-School Night, Trunk or Treat, and the Holiday Tree Lighting and Decorations Contest.

Membership

All North Brentwood residents are considered North Brentwood Citizens Association (NBCA) members!

We do ask all residents to contribute time, and pay annual dues, of just $15 per household, to support programs. Join, renew (or simply donate)... via Cash App: $NorthBrentwoodCA.

Info: email nbca20722@hotmail.com.

Benefits

- Help plan Town events.
- Get a voice in community initiatives.
- Earn volunteer hours.
- Stay connected to what's happening.
- Meet neighbors/make new friends.
- Foster a strong, united community.



Meetings

All residents of North Brentwood are invited to attend NBCA meetings!

Dates: 2nd Monday each month.

Time: 6:30 pm.

Place: Zoom (get login info on the back page of each month's Town newsletter).

The Citizens Association collaborates with the Mayor and Town Council, supporting initiatives that preserve the legacy and future of this vital PG County jewel.

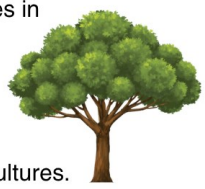
NBCA presents views, petitions and resolutions to municipal, county and state governing bodies — to secure adequate educational and recreational funding and facilities for North Brentwood.

Become a member



Join the North Brentwood Citizens Association.

Like the many trees in the Town of North Brentwood, our citizens are a diverse blend of cultures.



North Brentwood Citizens Association nurtures our roots and makes us stronger, together.



NORTH BRENTWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

Christmas Luncheon

It's our infamous annual event and you are invited!

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2026

12 - 3 PM

NORTH BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER

4012 WEBSTER ST, NORTH BRENTWOOD, MD

RSVP to Jaqueline Morales, President, NBHS 240.510.7420

Veteran's Day: Nov 11



On November 11, we honor those who've served in the US Armed Forces. The holiday began as Armistice Day in 1919, after World War I.

Everyday Savings Programs for Vets

Veterans can access a range of free services, discounts, and perks year-round (e.g., museum entry, event tickets, and even job search tools) by enrolling in programs.

- **America the Beautiful Passes** – Free annual pass for US National Parks; lifetime pass for Gold Star families/vets.
- **Blue Star Museums** – Free admission to some museums nationwide for active duty, Guard, Reserve, and vets.
- **Veterans Affairs "Together We Served"** – Free veteran-only networking site.
- **RallyPoint** – Free professional and social platform.

For more: *mymilitarybenefits.com/discounts/freebies-military-veterans*.

Financial Assistance for Veterans

MD Veterans Trust Fund is a nonprofit providing financial assistance to Maryland Veterans and their families facing temporary hardships. The fund relies on donations from the public to help cover essential expenses.

Eligibility: MD resident, honorably discharged veteran, member of the MD National Guard, and/or surviving veteran and Maryland National Guard spouses. Grants are based on eligibility, documented financial need, and available funding. Funds go directly to vendors.

Eligible Expenses: To be considered for assistance, applicants must have eligible bills at least 30 to 60 days past due at the time of application. Examples include:

- Delinquent rent or mortgage payments.
- Past due utilities, car and insurance payments.
- Reimbursement for emergent car or home repair.

Go to: *veterans.maryland.gov/benefits-services/maryland-veterans-trust-fund*.

Veteran's Day Deals & Freebies

To show thanks, many businesses offer free and discounted products and services on November 11, for Veterans and Active Duty servicemembers.

Restaurants:

Applebee's — Free dine-in entrée from a special Vets menu on Nov. 11. Proof of service required.

Bob Evans — Veterans and active-duty military get one free meal from a special seven-item menu.

Chili's — Free entrée from select menu. Dine-in.

Chipotle — Free chips and choice of guac/queso/salsa with $5 purchase.

Golden Corral — Free buffet and beverage during Military Appreciation Night (Nov. 11, 4 pm to close).

Red Lobster — Free Shrimp and Chips meal.

Red Robin — Free Big Tavern Burger/Bottomless Fries.

Smashburger — Free All-American Smashburger.

Texas Roadhouse — Voucher for future meal (one of 10 entrées, two sides and a nonalcoholic beverage, redeemable through May 31, 2027).

Retailers:

Great Clips — Free haircut or a card for a future free haircut. Cards expire December 4.

Five Below — 10% discount November 9-15.

Food Lion — 10% off eligible in-store purchases. Military ID and MVP card required.

Kohl's — 30% off qualifying purchases.

Office Depot / OfficeMax — 20% off qualifying online and in-store purchases with military ID, thru Dec. 31.

Rack Room Shoes — 20% off (includes dependents).

Walgreens — 20% off (includes family members).

Veteran's Day discounts are still coming in; check the web often. For everyday discounts for veterans, read: *themilitarywallet.com/veterans-day-retail-discounts*.

Sources: newsva.gov, usveteransmagazine.com



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS YARD DECORATING CONTEST



Wednesday, December 29, 2026

1ST Prize = $100

2ND Prize = $50

3RD Prize = $35



LIGHTS MUST BE ON BY 6 PM

JUDGING CRITERIA: **Appearance, Originality & Workmanship**

Protecting Your Info & Identity

Cybersecurity threats continue to evolve, but protecting yourself doesn't have to be complicated. Take a few moments to review simple online habits to help safeguard your accounts, personal information, and finances.



Think before you click. Be cautious of unexpected emails, texts or phone calls requesting personal info or urging immediate action. Criminals often create a sense of urgency to trick people into responding.



Enable Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA). MFA adds an extra layer of security by requiring a second form of verification before accessing your account, making it much harder for fraudsters to gain access.



Use strong, unique passwords and periodically change all. Avoid reusing passwords across multiple accounts; consider using a reputable password manager to securely store and keep track of them.



Keep devices updated. Software updates often contain important security patches that help protect against new threats.

Pause. Think. Verify. Protect.

Criminals rely on people acting before they think. A few moments of caution will help to protect what matters most.

Cybersecurity is the first line of defense against identity theft. If a criminal gets into your email, banking profile or shopping account, they may be able to reset passwords, collect personal info, make purchases or impersonate you.

Many attacks start with a message that looks familiar: a text about a delayed package, an email claiming your account is locked, a phone call from someone pretending to be tech support, or a notice that appears to come from a bank or government agency.

Before sending money, sharing info, or clicking a link:

PAUSE and take a breath. VERIFY using a trusted phone number or website. PROTECT your personal and financial information. Taking a few minutes to verify a request can help prevent months — or even years — of financial and emotional distress.

Common Scams & Warning Signs

Scammers often try to create urgency, excitement, fear or trust, so you act before you think. Be alert to messages that ask you to click, verify, pay, donate, invest, or share personal information:

- Bank, account or delivery scams sent by text, email or phone: “Your account is locked,” “verify your identity,” “delivery failed,” “confirm your details.”
- Tech support or government imposters typically contact you by phone, pop-up, email, websites or text: “Virus detected,” “final notice,” “you owe taxes,” “your benefits are at risk.”
- Romance or job scams generally appear via social media, messaging apps, email or employment sites: “I need your help,” “can I trust you,” “earn thousands from home.”
- Prize, charity or investment scams often appear by email, text, social media or websites: “You’ve won,” “donate now,” “guaranteed returns,” “limited-time opportunity.”

Protect Your Identity

If you believe your info has been compromised, consider placing a fraud alert or credit freeze with the three credit bureaus: Experian, Equifax and Transunion. Alerts/freezes help prevent unauthorized accounts from being opened in your name.

Use credit bureau tools as extra security guards. These free measures can add further protection, depending on your level of concern:

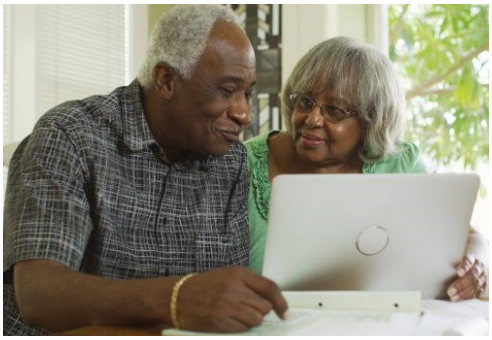
- Check your reports and accounts. Review bank, credit card and credit report activity regularly.
- **Start with a free fraud alert**. Contact one major credit bureau and it will notify the other two to confirm identities before opening new credit lines.
- **Freeze all three major credit bureaus**. A freeze restricts access to your credit report, making it hard for criminals to open accounts in your name.

Continued on page 21

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- Contact each credit bureau separately. Remember, lift freezes anytime you apply for credit.

Think your Identity was Compromised?



Warning signs may include unfamiliar charges, bills for accounts you didn't open, unexpected password reset emails, missing mail, collection notices, tax return issues or alerts your info was in a data breach.

- If something seems wrong, act quickly. Change passwords on affected accounts, starting with email. Contact your financial institution using a trusted number or website. Secure compromised accounts, dispute unauthorized charges and use a fraud alert or credit freeze as needed.
- Report theft at IdentityTheft.gov to get documentation and a recovery plan to use when working with creditors. If money was stolen, accounts were opened or you have evidence of fraud, consider filing a police report as well.

Make protecting your identity an everyday habit. Monitor accounts, set alerts, check credit reports, limit what you share online and shred sensitive papers. A few consistent steps — along with skepticism toward urgent requests — can help protect your information 365 days a year.

Source: M& T Bank

Need Job Assistance?

If you're experiencing a job loss or related issue, go to *labor.maryland.gov* for: training/employment resources; unemployment insurance; professional licensing; health employment and occupational safety standards (e.g., wage and hour enforcement); and consumer financial protection.

American Jobs Center in Largo, 1801 McCormick Dr, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774, 301.618.8425, is just one of PG's American Job Centers. Go to *labor.maryland.gov/county/pg*.

Town Meeting Minutes

A few notes from recent Town Meetings:

Councilmember Morales raised concerns about storm drain maintenance, noting the importance of keeping debris and waste out of storm drains to prevent flooding.

Mayor Robinson reminded residents to clean up leaves and grass clippings from streets (to prevent storm drain blockage and to maintain clean properties for public health and beautification).

Councilmember Dame highlighted a need for citizens to have comprehensive emergency kits with first aid supplies and batteries.

Mayor Robinson emphasized preparing for winter by encouraging residents to get emergency kits, COVID tests and flu shots. She also noted plans to clean up the outside of PGAAMCC.

Mayor Robinson and Town Manager Dorsey-Washington discussed four specific locations for new LED stop signs: 40th and Wallace, 40th and Allison, 41st and Wallace, and Banner Street and Wallace Road. The mayor explained these locations were chosen to address areas not well-covered by existing traffic control measures.

Event Planner Hawkins reported successful events including a watch party, the Color Me Friday series, and community giveaways, with surplus revenue generated from Sis's Tavern. She also reported a new Town Office building awning was installed.

Bunker Hill Fire Dept's rep, Jason, discussed the availability of dual-purpose smoke/CO detectors. He also announced a spaghetti dinner fundraiser on November 21, from 4-8 pm, at the Fire Department.

Food & Utilities Assistance

If you/your family is experiencing food instability, needs help with utility bills, and more, go to the Residents section of *princegeorgescountymd.gov*.



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INVESTING IN PEOPLE. STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITIES.

ANYTHING BUT COLLEGE FAIR



Thursday, November 12 | 6–8 p.m.
Northwestern High School
7000 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD 20782



Scan the QR code to save your spot!

- **MEET EMPLOYERS**
- **EXPLORE CAREERS**
- **LEARN ABOUT TRAINING PROGRAMS**
- **MAKE REAL CONNECTIONS**

Explore post-high school paths—including trades, military, apprenticeships, and entrepreneurship—while making real connections with employers and training programs.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

Elizabeth Dennis
elizabeth.dennis@pgcps.org

Betsy Ramirez
BHRamirez@co.pg.md.us

Office of the County Executive — Aisha N. Braveboy

Prince George's County
Office of Community Relations
Elevate Prince George's County
connecting people, connecting resources

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GOG!

PGCPS

Youth Career CONNECTIONS
BUILDING YOUTH CAREER PATHWAYS



PATROCINADO POR Washington Gas

INVIRTIENDO EN LAS PERSONAS. FORTALECIENDO NUESTRAS COMUNIDADES.

FERIA DE ALTERNATIVAS A LA UNIVERSIDAD



Jueves, 12 de noviembre | 6–8 p. m.
Northwestern High School
7000 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD 20782



¡Escanea el código QR para reservar tu lugar!

- **CONOCE A EMPLEADORES**
- **EXPLORA CARRERAS**
- **DESCUBRE PROGRAMAS DE CAPACITACIÓN**
- **CREA CONEXIONES REALES**

Explora opciones después de la secundaria —oficios, servicio militar, programas de aprendizaje y emprendimiento— y conecta con empleadores y programas de capacitación.

¿PREGUNTAS? CONTACTA A:

Elizabeth Dennis
elizabeth.dennis@pgcps.org

Betsy Ramirez
BHRamirez@co.pg.md.us

prince george's county
Office of Community Relations
Elevate Prince George's County
connecting people, connecting resources

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Youth Career CONNECTIONS
BUILDING YOUTH CAREER PATHWAYS

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
ANGLA D. ALSOBROOKS

PGCPS

Town Directory

Town Office: 301.699.9699

Mayor: Petrella Robinson x1225

Council Members:

Aaron Baynes x1227

Jacqueline Morales x1222

Evan Dame x1229

Town Manager:

Shelley Dorsey-Washington x1226

Treasurer: Tracy Gross x1224

Code Enforcement Officer:

Martha Cuffie x1223

Town Clerk: Carletta Lundy x1227

Assistant Clerk:

Cristian Ortiz-Romero x1227

Maintenance:

Greg Butler/Anthony Avents

Prince George's County Police: 911

Non-Emergency: 301.352.1200

Park Police:

Nonemergency: 301.459.9088

Emergency 301.459.3232

Notaries:

S. Jones 301.922.2259

C. Ortiz-Romero 240.351.6302

community channel:
Xfinity 71 / Fios 1983

facebook.com/northbrentwood

instagram.com/northbrentwoodmd

www.northbrentwood.com

youtube.com/@TownofNorthBrentwood

REMINDERS...

Upcoming Town Meetings: Mon, Nov 16. NO MEETINGS IN DECEMBER.

- Meetings are conducted via ZOOM. Meeting ID: 433 091 3800 / Passcode: 4009 / Call: 301.715.8592.
- Meetings are live-streamed and archived on YouTube: *youtube.com/@TownofNorthBrentwood*.
- A link to the YouTube live stream is also posted on Facebook before each meeting: *facebook.com/northbrentwood*.

All Town meetings begin at 7:30 pm. Join and share your ideas and concerns, and learn what's going on in North Brentwood!

North Brentwood Citizens Association: Next meetings: **Nov 9** at 6:30 pm and **Monday, Jan 11. Zoom Meet ID: 82622275426 / Passcode: m12hc5**.

North Brentwood Historical Society: Meets **Nov 10** on Zoom. **No Meetings in December or January.**

SHARE Program for North Brentwood residents: To get SHARE packages, call 301.699.9699. Please leave your name, contact number and address.

NBCA Membership: Membership is just $15 per household. Send funds by cashapp: $NorthBrentwood-CA. Your volunteer help is NEEDED!

Holiday Party: Dec 9, 12 pm, at North Brentwood Community Center.

